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# HF Happenings

South African Radio League \* Suid-Afrikaanse Radioliga  
Member Society of the International Amateur Radio Union since 1925  
[www.sarl.org.za](http://www.sarl.org.za) [www.iau.org](http://www.iau.org) [www.iau-r1.org](http://www.iau-r1.org)



April  
2014

## Summits on the Air News



**M**arch has seen some SOTA activity from South Africa. The first Eastern Cape summit has been activated and the sixth summit in the Free State.

Denis, ZS/VA2IEI/p is on holiday in South Africa until 11 April. On 12 March he activated Maclear's Beacon on Table Mountain, ZS/WC-043, a 2 point summit. This was the sixth activation of Maclear's Beacon. Denis made 4 QSOs.

Denis was in the Hogsback area last week and initially indicated that he would activate Hogsback, ZS/EC-005, a 4 point summit. But on Thursday 27 March, Denis activated Tor Doone, ZS/EC-012, also a 4 point summit. This is the first Eastern Cape summit to be activated. Unfortunately Denis only made 2 QSOs and thus cannot claim the summit - he needs to make at least 4 QSOs to claim the summit.

On Friday 28 March, Sid, ZS5AYC, and Adele, ZS5APT, activated Surrender Hill, ZS/FS-013, a 4 point summit. Each made 9 QSOs. They had planned to activate either Ribbokokop, ZS/FS-001, or Generalskop, ZS/FS-002, both 8 point summits.

Sid, ZS5AYC, sent me a message about activating summits in Golden Gate. "Hi Dennis, spoke to the Parks Board Ranger at Golden Gate. He says we are not allowed off the actual hiking trail which is a long way from the summits. (???) When I told them that we do SOTA, he said I need to obtain permission from their head office to actually get to the summit. Will send an email next week and hear if it is possible. Regards Sid"

If you worked Denis, ZS/VA2IEI and/or Sid, ZS5AYC, and Adele, ZS5APT, please remember to upload your chaser's log to <http://sotadata.org.uk/logon.aspx?returnurl=addChaser.aspx>

Driving down from Bloemfontein to Plettenberg Bay for a holiday, I spotted a number of summits that are not yet on the ZS SOTA list - Colesberg Kopje, area around Noupoot, Lootsberg south of Middelburg, Spandau Kop at Graaff Reinett, Bavianskloof area, Knysna and Plettenberg Bay areas. Robberg here in Plett, should be on the list!

Have **YOU** done anything today to Promote Amateur Radio?

### April

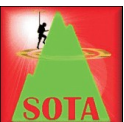
3 - SARL 80 metre QSO Party  
5 - RaDAR Contest  
7 - Schools open  
10 - Closing date for May RAE  
11 to 12 - SARL National Convention  
15 - Pesach begins  
18 - Good Friday; World Amateur Radio Day  
19 - Autumn QRP Contest; Two Oceans Marathon  
20 - Easter Sunday  
21 - Family Day  
22 - Pesach ends, Earth Day  
27 - Freedom Day  
28 - Public Holiday  
29 - School holiday  
30 - School holiday

## 2014 RaDAR Contest

**T**he RaDAR contest is a unique event aimed at promoting the use of Rapidly Deployable Amateur Radio stations. This contest is for all licensed radio amateurs not limited to South Africa. A choice is made prior to the contest to participate in one of the defined categories but may be changed at any time during the contest. The points system is so structured as to encourage portable operations especially moveable RaDAR stations.

The contest takes place on Saturday 5 April starting at 14:00 UTC and ending at 18:00 UTC (16:00 to

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Current Summits-on-the-Air (SOTA) activities are announced at [www.sotawatch.org](http://www.sotawatch.org)  
And more SOTA information can be found at [www.sota.org.uk](http://www.sota.org.uk) and [www.zs4bfn.co.za/sota.asp](http://www.zs4bfn.co.za/sota.asp)



## HF Happenings

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20:00 CAT) - approximately two hours during the day and two hours at night within the South African time zone.

All amateur bands, besides the WARC bands, are allowed including cross band contacts via amateur radio satellites. Modes - CW, SSB, AM, FM or any digital mode. QSOs via terrestrial repeaters will NOT be allowed. Suggested HF Calling frequencies, visit <http://zs6bne.wordpress.com/2013/03/06/radar-calling-frequencies/> for the latest international list of frequencies. Recommended digital modes frequencies - refer to the SARL Contest Manual, General Rule 15.



The exchange: the RaDAR contest requires more than a minimalistic information exchange. Accurate information exchange is considered more important than a large QSO count. Call sign, Name, RS(T) Report, QTH and grid locator. Note the grid locator can change as RaDAR operators are allowed to move position at any time. The grid locator of six characters is acceptable but should preferably be accurate to 10 characters for higher position accuracy.

Scoring: 1 point per QSO. Individual QSOs - per mode, per band, per satellite, per call sign.

Categories and multipliers. The following multipliers are applicable to determine the final score. If category changes were made during the contest then calculate accordingly.

x 1 - RaDAR Fixed station (at home or in another building)

x 2 - RaDAR Field station (portable - away from home)

x 3 - Moving RaDAR station - Car / motorcycle / bicycle / etc., - minimum 3 km

x 4 - Moving RaDAR station - on foot - minimum 1 km

Note: Moving RaDAR stations can move at any time but are required to move to the next destination after five contacts have been made from the present location. The move needs to cover the required distance before further contacts are allowed to be made. This requirement tests the ability to rapidly re-deploy your amateur radio field station.

Power multiplier: The power multiplier that applies is determined by the highest power output of any of the transmitters used during the contest at any point in time. X 6 - 5 Watts or less; X 4 - 6 to 50 Watts; X 2 - 51 watts or greater

Bonus points (All categories). 5 Points (the equivalent of five QSOs) for a minimum of one satellite or any digital modes QSO involving a computer, smartphone or digital modes device. (For clarity - thereafter 1 point per Satellite / Digital modes QSO). 5 points for the first inter continental DX QSO - 10 points if that QSO is between two participating RaDAR stations.

Log Sheets, the SARL RaDAR Contest manager is Eddie, ZS6BNE. Send e-mail entries to [edleighton@gmail.com](mailto:edleighton@gmail.com). The closing date for logs is 19 April 2014. See [www.dropbox.com/s/hygzv5no1gev0bx/ZS6BNE-RaDAR-GenericContestLog2013.docx](http://www.dropbox.com/s/hygzv5no1gev0bx/ZS6BNE-RaDAR-GenericContestLog2013.docx) for a log sheet specifically designed for the RaDAR contest.

Note: A photo of the station (JPG format) MUST accompany every log entry. A photo is required for each new location that moveable stations move to. These photos are used to promote amateur radio and the RaDAR concept showing where amateur radio can be used to communicate from and in the many different ways.

### African DX

6W, Senegal. Pete, F4GPK, is expected on the air as 6W/F4GPK from La Somone (5 km south of Dakar) from 4 to 15 April. QSL via home call. [http://dxing.at-communication.com/en/6w-f4gpk\\_senegal/](http://dxing.at-communication.com/en/6w-f4gpk_senegal/)



A2, Botswana. Schalk, ZS1LL (ex-ZS3O), spends every other weekend on his farm in Lobatse. QRV from 5 to 30 April as A22LL on 20 m on CW (14 020) and SSB (14 200). QSL via ZS1LL.

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C5, The Gambia. Pedro, ON7WP/C5WP, and Andre, ON7YK/C5YK, are the only legit operators with permanent licenses from The Gambia in 2014 so far. Pedro will get on the air from 8 to 12 April from Buntu, running 100 W and a V-Beam (2 x 120 m) on 80 - 6 m on SSB and PSK. He might also get on the air on 15 m while mobiling around the country until 15 April. Donations with direct QSLs will be used for a charity project, see qrz.com. <http://www.smilegambia.org/>

Z8, South Sudan. Diya, Z81D (YI1DZ) and Massimo (Z81B, IZ0EGB) have decided to suspend their radio activities until next month in the face of recent political events. Up to now no official restrictions have been enacted, but they see a need to avoid any misunderstandings with the involved political forces.

## Contest Calendar

This week's contests compiled by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM. The period covered is 31 March to 6 April 2014

### NCCC RTTY Sprint

02:00 - 02:30 UTC 4 April

Mode: RTTY

Bands: (see rules)

Classes: (none)

Exchange: (see rules)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 6 April 2014

E-mail logs to: (none)

Post log summary at: <http://www.3830scores.com/>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://www.ncccsprint.com/rttyns.html>

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with same country; 3 points per QSO with different country same continent; 5 points per QSO with different continent

Multipliers: Each country once; Each WSSTVC member once

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 21 April 2014

E-mail logs to: (none)

Upload log at: <http://contests.wsstvc.org/submit-log/cabrillo/>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://contests.wsstvc.org/rules/>

### NCCC Sprint

02:30 - 03:00 UTC 4 April

Mode: (see rules)

Bands: (see rules)

Classes: (none)

Exchange: (see rules)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 6 April 2014

E-mail logs to: (none)

Post log summary at: <http://www.3830scores.com/>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html>

### LZ Open 40 m Sprint Contest

04:00 - 08:00 UTC 5 April

Mode: CW

Bands: 40 m Only

Classes: Single Op - high, low or QRP; Multi-Op; Straight Key; Lady Ops

Max power: QRP: 5 W

Exchange: 3-Digit serial no and 3-Digit serial no received from last QSO

Work stations: Once each 30 minutes

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points

Submit logs by: 15 April 2014

E-mail logs to: [LZ1GL@yahoo.com](mailto:LZ1GL@yahoo.com)

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://www.lzopen.com/lzocc40/indexF.htm>

### 15-Metre SSTV Dash Contest

00:00 UTC 5 April to 23:59 UTC 6 April

Mode: SSTV

Bands: 15 m Only

Classes: Single Op - QRP, low or high; Multi-Single

Max power: HP: >150 watts; LP: 150 watts; QRP: 10 watts

Exchange: WSSTVC-Member: RSV, "W" and 4-digit member no; non-Members: RSV and serial no

### PODXS 070 Club PSK 31 Flavours Contest

12:00 - 18:00 local 5 April

Mode: BPSK31, QPSK31, BPSK63, QPSK63, BPSK125

Bands: 20 m Only

Classes: QRP; Low; Medium

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Max power: Medium: 100 watts; Low: 20 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: 070 members: state, province or country and member no; Non-members: state, province or country and name

Work stations: Once per PSK variant

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: Each state, province and DXCC country once per mode

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 19 April 2014

Post log summary at: <http://www.podxs070.com/31-flavors-entry>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://www.podxs070.com/o7o-club-sponsored-contests/31-flavors>

QRP ARCI Spring QSO Party

12:00 UTC 5 April to 23:59 UTC 6 April

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: All Band; Single Band; High Bands; Low Bands

Max operating hours: 24

Exchange: RS and state, province or country and (ARCI number/power)

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 5 points per QSO with ARCI member; 4 points per non-member QSO with different continent; 2 points per non-member QSO with same continent

Multipliers: States, once per band; VE Provinces, once per band; Countries, once per band

Power Mult:  $>5W=x1$ ,  $1-5W=x7$ ,  $250mW-1W=x10$ ,  $55-250mW=15x$ ,  $<55mW=20x$

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x (state mults and province mults and country mults) x power mult

Submit logs by: 20 April 2014

E-mail logs to: [contest@qrparci.org](mailto:contest@qrparci.org)

Mail logs to: ARCI Spring QSO Party, c/o Jeff Hetherington, 139 Elizabeth St. W., Welland, Ontario L3C 4M3, Canada

Find rules at: <http://www.qrparci.org/contests/spring-qso-party-2014>

Mississippi QSO Party

14:00 UTC 5 April to 02:00 UTC 6 April

Mode: CW, SSB, Digital

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, VHF/UHF

Classes: Single Op; Mobile; Portable

Exchange: MS: RS(T) and county; non-MS: RS(T) and state, province or country

Work stations: Once per band per mode

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: MS stations: Each MS county, state, province and DXCC country once; Non-MS stations: Each MS county once

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 30 April 2014

E-mail logs to: [w5xx@vicksburg.com](mailto:w5xx@vicksburg.com)

Mail logs to: Vicksburg ARC, 64 Lake Circle Drive, Vicksburg, MS 39180, USA

Find rules at:

[http://www.arrlmiss.org/2014\\_MSQP\\_Rules.pdf](http://www.arrlmiss.org/2014_MSQP_Rules.pdf)

Missouri QSO Party

14:00 UTC 5 April to 02:00 UTC 6 April and 14:00 - 20:00 UTC 6 April

Mode: CW, Phone

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Missouri Fixed - Single Op QRP, Single Op LP or Multi-Op; Missouri Rover - Single Op CW LP, Single Op SSB LP, Single Op LP, Multi-Op LP or Unlimited; Non-Missouri - Single Op, Multi-Op or Canada; DX

Exchange: MO: RS(T), serial no and county; non-MO W/VE: RS(T), serial no and state, province or territory; DX: RS(T), serial no and "DX"

Work stations: Once per band per mode

QSO Points: 1 point per phone QSO; 2 points per CW QSO; Bonus: 100 points for at least one QSO with special event station

Multipliers: MO: Each MO county, state, province and territory once; MO: Maximum of one DXCC country once; Non-MO: Each MO county once

Score Calculation: Total score = (total QSO points x total mults) and bonus

Submit logs by: 6 May 2014

E-mail logs to: [mogsoparty@w0ma.org](mailto:mogsoparty@w0ma.org)

Mail logs to: Boeing Employees' Amateur Radio Society WOMA, C/O Dave Propper, K2DP, 747 Old Bonhomme Rd., University City, MO 63132, USA

Find rules at:

[http://www.w0ma.org/mo\\_qso\\_party.htm](http://www.w0ma.org/mo_qso_party.htm)

Texas State Parks on the Air

14:00 UTC 5 April to 01:59 UTC 6 April

Mode: CW, SSB, AM, Digital

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6 m

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Classes: Single Op TX Park (QRP/Low); Single Op - QRP, low or high; Multi-Single TX Park (QRP/Low); Multi-Multi TX Park (QRP/Low)

Max power: QRP: 10 watts; LP: 150 watts; HP: >150 watts

Exchange: TX Park: "TX" and park abbreviation; TX non-park: "TX"; W/VE: (state/province); DX: "DX"

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: Each TX park once

Power: QRP: 3X, Low: 2X, High: 1X

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults x power mult

Submit logs by: 19 April 2014

E-mail logs to: [logs@tspot.com](mailto:logs@tspot.com)

Mail logs to: Texas State Parks On The Air, c/o Tom King, WK5DX, 9438 Cedar Point Cir., Houston, TX 77070, USA

Find rules at:

<http://tspot.com/site/page?view=rules>

#### SP DX Contest

15:00 UTC 5 April to 15:00 UTC 6 April

Mode: CW, SSB

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op All Band Mixed - QRP, low or high; Single Op Three Band Mixed; Single Op All Band Phone (Low/High); Single Op All Band CW (Low/High); Single Op Single Band Phone; Single Op Single Band CW; Multi-Op All Band Mixed; SWL Mixed

Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: SP: RS(T) and 1-character province; non-SP: RS(T) and serial no

Work stations: Once per band per mode

QSO Points: SP: 3 points per QSO outside of Europe;

SP: 1 point per QSO with non-SP Europe; non-SP: 3 points per QSO with SP

Multipliers: SP: Each DXCC country once per band regardless of mode; non-SP: Each SP province once per band regardless of mode

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 30 April 2014

E-mail logs to: [spdx-logs@pzk.org.pl](mailto:spdx-logs@pzk.org.pl)

Mail logs to: Polski Związek Krotkofalowcow, SPDX Contest Committee, PO Box 320, 00-950 Warszawa, Poland

Find rules at: [http://www.spdxcontest.pzk.org.pl/reg/reg\\_g.html](http://www.spdxcontest.pzk.org.pl/reg/reg_g.html)

#### EA RTTY Contest

16:00 UTC 5 April to 16:00 UTC 6 April

Mode: RTTY

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op All Band (Low/High); Single Op Single Band; Multi-Op

Max power: Low: 100 watts; High: >100 watts

Exchange: EA: RSQ and province; non-EA: RSQ and serial no

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: EA: 2 points per QSO with EA; EA: 1 point per QSO with non-EA; non-EA: 3 points per QSO with EA; non-EA: 1 point per QSO with non-EA

Multipliers: Each EADX100 entity once per band; Each EA province once per band; Each USA, VE, JA or VK call area once per band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 20 April 2014

E-mail logs to: [rttycontest@ure.es](mailto:rttycontest@ure.es)

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://concursos.ure.es/en/eartty/bases/>

#### Montana QSO Party

18:00 UTC 5 April to 05:59 UTC 6 April

Mode: CW, Phone, Digital

Bands: 160 to 70 cm

Classes: Single Op - CW, phone, digital or mixed - QRP, low or high; Multi-Single - CW, phone, digital or mixed - QRP, low or high; Mobile/Rover - CW, phone, digital or mixed - QRP, low or high

Max power: HP: >150 watts; LP: 150 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: MT: RS(T) and county; non-MT: RS(T) and state, province or "DX"

Work stations: Once per band per mode

QSO Points: 1 point per SSB QSO; 2 points per CW/Digital QSO

Multipliers: MT: Each state, province or MT county once per mode; Non-MT: Each MT county once per mode

Power: >150W:1X, 150W:2X, QRP:3X

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults x power mult

Submit logs by: 05:59 UTC 13 April 2014

E-mail logs to: [MTQSOParty2014@tuscort.net](mailto:MTQSOParty2014@tuscort.net)

Post log summary at: <http://fvarc.org/?q=MT-QSO-Entry>

Mail logs to: (none)



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Find rules at: <http://www.fvarc.org/sites/default/files/library/2014%20MT%20QSO%20Party%20Rules.pdf>

RSGB RoPoCo SSB

19:00 - 20:30 UTC 6 April

Mode: SSB

Bands: 80 m Only

Classes: (none)

Max power: 100 watts

Exchange: RST and previous postcode received

QSO Points: 10 points per QSO with UK station

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points

Submit logs by: 22 April 2014

Upload log at: <http://www.rsgbcc.org/cgi-bin/hfenter.pl>

Mail logs to: RSGB G3UFY, 77 Bensham Manor Road, Thornton Heath, Surrey CR7 7AF, England

Find rules at: <http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2014/rropoco.shtml>

RSGB 80 m Club Championship, CW

19:00 - 20:30 UTC 7 April

Mode: CW

Bands: 80 m Only

Classes: (none)

Exchange: RST and serial no

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: (see rules)

Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 14 April 2014

Upload log at: <http://www.rsgbcc.org/cgi-bin/hfenter.pl>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: [http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2014/r80\\_mcc.shtml](http://www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2014/r80_mcc.shtml)

## Next Weeks Contests

ARS Spartan Sprint, 01:00 - 03:00 UTC 8 April

NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint, 00:30 - 02:30 UTC 9 April

CWops Mini-CWT Test, 13:00 - 14:00 UTC and 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 9 April; 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 10 April

NCCC Sprint Ladder, 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 11 April

JIDX CW Contest, 07:00 UTC 12 April to 13:00 UTC 13 April

OK/OM DX SSB Contest, 12:00 UTC 12 April to 12:00 UTC 13 April

SKCC Weekend Sprintathon, 12:00 UTC 12 April to 24:00 UTC 13 April

New Mexico QSO Party, 14:00 UTC 12 April to 02:00 UTC 13 April

EU Spring CW Sprint, 16:00 - 19:59 UTC 12 April

Georgia QSO Party, 18:00 UTC 12 April to 03:59 UTC 13 April, 14:00 - 23:59 UTC 13 April

Yuri Gagarin International DX Contest, 21:00 UTC 12 April to 21:00 UTC 13 April

International Vintage HF Contest, 12:00 - 18:00 UTC 13 April

Hungarian Straight Key Contest, 15:00 - 17:00 UTC 13 April

## History this Week, week starting 31 March 14

2348 BC - Noah's ark grounded, Mount Ararat (calculated date)

1449 - The earliest English patent was granted to John of Utynam protection for introducing the making coloured glass to England

1833 - Gauss & Weber, Germany, demonstrate electromagnetic telegraph

1852 - the word 'Telegram' first used - Albany Evening Journal, England

1863 - Congress authorizes track width of 4'8½" for Union Pacific RR.

1872 - Samuel Morse dies at age 80

1872 - George B. Brayton of Boston, Mass., received a US patent for a gas-powered engine

1875 - Sir Francis Galton published the first newspaper weather map - in The Times, London, England

1880 - Wabash, Ind. was the first town in which electric lighting completely replaced gas lamps

1972 - First electric power plant fuelled by garbage begins operating

*Items used with acknowledgement to The ARRL Letter, Amateur Radio Newslines, OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX Bulletin, DXNL Bulletin, ARRL DX News, WIA-News, the RSGB News and Southgate ARC News*